

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 SAM-01 DHA-02 ORM-01

IO-10 EURE-00 OPIC-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /087 W

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O P 021723Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4070

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LUANDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

MAC SCOTT AFB ILL

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5090

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

COMMAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR, EAID, SREF, PO, AO

SUBJECT: U.S. ASSISTANCE IN EVACUATION OF ANGOLA REFUGEES

REF: STATE 207734

1. CONVEYED POINTS IN FIRST TWO PARAGRAPHS REFTEL TO PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES AT 3:30 LOCAL TODAY, SEPTEMBER 2. OUR PRESS RELEASE HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY COORDINATED WITH HIS STAFF. PRESIDENT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT FORD FOR OUR POSITIVE RESPONSE AND SAID HE WOULD ISSUE HIS OWN COMMUNIQUE TODAY.

2. IN ADDITION TO POINTS MADE REFTEL, I AGAIN EXPRESSED THE HOPE GOP WOULD ENLIST SUPPORT OF OTHER FRIENDLY NATIONS. PRESIDENT SAID HE HAD RECEIVED COMMITMENT OF ONE PLANE FROM FRENCH, AND EXPECTED BRITISH TO SUPPLY ONE AIRCRAFT AS WELL. SWEDEN HAD DONATED SOME MONEY. GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC HAD AGREED TO SUPPLY ONE AIRCRAFT, BUT FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAD NOT YET RESPONDED. USSR WAS GOING TO HELP, BUT HAD NOT YET PRESENTED CONCRETE PLAN.

3. WE HAD BRIEF DISCUSSION ABOUT THE ACUTE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS GOP FACES WITH RETURNING REFUGEES. PRESIDENT POINTED OUT THAT THEY RECEIVED SAME UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AND SAME SOCIAL SECURITY HERE AS THEY WOULD IN ANGOLA. HOWEVER, GOP COULDN'T CONCEIVABLY AFFORD TO GRANT THEIR DEMANDS FOR UNLIMITED CURRENCY EXCHANGE. REFERRING TO LAST NIGHT'S DEMONSTRATION BY ANGOLAN REFUGEES (LISBON 5079 NOTAL) PRESIDENT SAID HE FACED A DILEMMA, AGGRAVATE GOP'S PROBLEMS HERE BY BRINGING REFUGEES HOME OR ABANDON GOP'S HUMANITARIAN RESPONSIBILITIES BY LEAVING REFUGEES IN ANGOLA. HE HAD DECIDED IN FAVOR OF EVACUATION.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE POINTS I HAD MADE PER PARA 2 REFTEL, COSTA GOMES SAID HE HAD ONLY TWO COMMENTS: (A) I CAN ASSURE YOU "THE GENERAL" (VASCO GONCALVES) IS NOT A COMMUNIST AND (B) "THE GENERAL" FULLY UNDERSTANDS SECURITY REGULATIONS, BOTH THOSE OF THE GOP AND THOSE OF NATO.

5. COMMENT: I HAD THIS MORNING REQUESTED 15 MINUTE APPOINTMENT TODAY FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING AIRLIFT. SINCE
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PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE WAS BACKED UP AND APPOINTMENT HAD BEEN GRANTED ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, I DID NOT ATTEMPT TO EXPLORE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS FURTHER WITH HIM. MOREOVER GIVEN THE PAP THAT HE FED BRITISH AMBASSADOR SATURDAY MORNING (LISBON 5054 NOTAL AND STATE 207579 NOTAL) SUCH AN EFFORT WOULD SEEM TO BE OF LIMITED VALUE. I HAD MADE OUR POINT ON VASCO GONCALVES, AND PRESIDENT'S ARGUMENTS AND RESPONSES SEEM TO AGE BUT NOT IMPROVE WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME. HIS

COMMENT ON CLASSIFIED INFORMATION MAY HAVE BEEN PURELY A RESPONSE TO LAST SENTENCE PARA 2 REFTL, OR IT MAY INDICATE HE HAS SOME WORD OF DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN BRUSSELS. HE IS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE ON THE SUBJECT OF ACCESS TO NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

6. COSTA GOMES SEEMED IN GOOD SPIRITS AND RECEIVED ME CORDIALLY. WHILE HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION, HIS STAFF TOLD US AFTERWARDS HE WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE MAGNITUDE OF OUR RESPONSE. A KEY MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT'S STAFF SAID "WE ASKED FOR A BUCKET AND THE U.S. GAVE US A DROP."
CARLUCCI

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY'S PARTY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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